

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2013
INDIAN ISLAND GOLF COURSE
RIVERHEAD, NEW YORK**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Miles Borden	Chairman, Town of Smithtown
Christopher DiGregorio	Trustee, Town of Southold
Kathleen Gooding, Ph.D.	Trustee, Town of Shelter Island
Dawn Hopkins	Vice Chair, Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Peter Leis	Trustee, Town of Islip
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
Terrence Pearsall	Member of the Board
William B. Sickles	Trustee, Town of Southampton
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

ABSENT

Gilbert Cardillo	Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Deborah Kolyer	Member of the Board
VACANT	Trustee, Town of Babylon
VACANT	Member at Large

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Greg Dawson	Commissioner
Barbara Rittman	Senior Clerk Typist

GUESTS

Lauretta Fischer	Chief Environmental Analyst, Environmental Analysis & Research Division
Janet Longo	Land Management Specialist, S.C. Real Property Acquisitions & County Attorney's Office
Tom Young	Management

PUBLIC PORTION

There were no members of the public present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 17, 2013

Page 4 – Chairman's Report – 4th line up from bottom of paragraph – Until the IO is signed, it would be difficult to acquire grant funding because the Towns of Smithtown, Brookhaven and Islip all share in decision making processes related to Lake Ronkonkoma and the Department of State likes to see inter-community cooperation, such as civic associations, towns and county working together.

A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Lauretta Fischer presented the proposed 50 acre North Fork Preserve land acquisition which is adjacent to the North Fork Preserve in Riverhead and accessible from Sound Avenue. The County originally acquired farmland development rights to the property under the Farmland Protection Program and is now interested in purchasing the residual fee title to the property and developing it into an equestrian center. Proposed for the site are three corral areas, stables, two indoor arenas, parking area, maintenance building and management office. Commissioner Dawson stated that it would be similar to our other equestrian facilities where people could board horses, as well as rent them to take trail rides and lessons. When the North Fork Preserve property was purchased, the original master plan included camping and an equestrian center. Trustee Sickles had some reservations about the fact that Southaven and Sears Bellows County Parks have facilities for stables that have not been used. Commissioner Dawson was much more optimistic for successful development of an equestrian center at the North Fork Preserve location.

Trustee Gooding made a motion in support of purchasing the parcel and Trustee Hopkins seconded the motion. It was approved by a vote of 8-0-1(Board Member Terrence Pearsall abstained).

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Dawson reported that the Parks Department is preparing for the winter months with leaf collection and blowing out of sprinkler systems. The golf courses will be closing down on December 29th. October's golf course sales showed some improvement and November sales will be much improved from last year's low sales due to Hurricane Sandy.

The resolution was approved to rename the Manorville Trail Center in honor of former Parks Trustee and Chairman Ray Corwin. The event will be December 5th at 11:00 a.m. and formal invitations will be sent out within the next few days.

The budget passed without any major changes since the last Trustee meeting.

Trustee McKay inquired if there had been any communication with the library board regarding the little red schoolhouse. Commissioner Dawson reported that Colleen has been putting together the Committee's recommendations.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Borden reported that Legislator Lynne Nowick has served as a Legislative Park Chairperson for many years and she is finishing her 12th year with the Legislature in December. Chairman Borden announced that he plans to attend the last Committee meeting to thank Lynne for her faithful service and support, and would like to communicate the message on behalf of the entire board if all are agreeable.

Chairman Borden inquired if there was any news on the Cedar Point Lighthouse. Commissioner Dawson reported that the Cedar Point Historical Society received a generous donation from Chesterfield & Associates, a marine outfit and Coco Construction Company. They removed the top from the Cedar Island Lighthouse about 3 weeks ago for restoration, transported it away by barge and it is now residing in Sag Harbor to be refurbished. Chesterfield & Associates has agreed to return the top to the Lighthouse when completed at no charge. Chairman Borden passed a copy of the Newsday article on the project.

Trustee Hopkins gave an update on the status of the Bavarian Inn site. She reported that there was quite a bit of asbestos contamination in the building which was trucked out of the area to Ohio. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is now moving forward since the three townships involved, Brookhaven, Islip and

Smithtown, and the County Legislature are now in agreement. It is hoped that some grant funding will be awarded in the near future.

Chairman Borden announced that a new calendar of meetings for 2014 needs to be scheduled and if anyone has a suggestion or request for a particular location for a meeting to please contact Barbara Rittman.

Chairman Borden inquired if there are any updates on the Member at Large appointment. Commissioner Dawson reported that he has a nominee in mind.

ROUND TABLE

Trustee Sickles suggested possibly scheduling a Trustee meeting during the 2014 calendar year in the Town of Southold, such as the Children's Camp located at Peconic Dunes and run by the Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Trustee Gooding announced that she, Trustee Hopkins and Trustee White planned to attend an Open House tour on Saturday, November 23rd at Sylvester Manor on Shelter Island and she welcomed anyone else who may wish to join them. Trustee White added that Sylvester Manor is one of the few places on Long Island that had slaves, some of whom were Montauk Indians.

Chairman Borden announced that the next meeting would be at West Sayville Golf Course on December 19th.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 9-0-0.